

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Joe Courtney, member of the House Armed Services Committee, today released the following statement on the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestinian militants in Gaza:

“Israel, like all nations, has a right to defend herself and her people from attack. The unprovoked rain of rockets on innocent Israelis would not be tolerated by any sovereign state.

“I am deeply troubled by the violence of recent days, but remain hopeful that a comprehensive and lasting ceasefire can be agreed to in the coming days for the benefit of the innocent Israeli and Palestinian people in the crossfire. This situation also underscores my steadfast commitment to fully support our country’s critical investment in technology such as the Iron Dome which is working every day to protect the Israeli people during this crisis.

“Ultimately, Israel's security, and that of the Palestinian people, depends on continued dialogue and a commitment to a lasting, sustainable and comprehensive peace. The continued engagement of the United States—through President Obama, Secretary Clinton, and many others—must remain focused on moving the peace process forward through productive proximity talks that lay the groundwork for further progress towards achieving the security needs of Israel, curbing the influence of Hamas, and providing the Palestinian people with the building blocks of true prosperity.”

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